

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer implemented manuscript review process comprising the steps of:
- receiving manuscript data defining a manuscript comprising at least one of text data, audio data, and video data;
  - assigning a unique identification to said manuscript data;
  - prompting a potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript; and
  - storing agreement data received from said potential reviewer, said agreement data including one of agreement to review and disagreement to review said manuscript.
2. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of, depending upon stored agreement data from at least one potential reviewer, transmitting a signal prompting an additional potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript.
3. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of, responding to receipt of agreement data indicating disagreement to review by transmitting a signal prompting an additional potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript.
4. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of storing data indicating an identification of an associate editor for said manuscript in association with said manuscript data.
5. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps

of storing data indicating an identification of an associate editor for said manuscript in association with said manuscript data; and  
storing at least one date on which said associate editor takes at least one of the following actions:

- ← assigning a potential reviewer; and
- ← entering manuscript approval status data.

6. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of storing dates on which at least one of receiving said manuscript, prompting a potential reviewer, and receiving agreement data occur.

7. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of transmitting manuscript review instructions to reviewers.

8. A computer implemented method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of authorizing transmission of said manuscript to at least one of associate editors of said manuscript, potential reviewers of said manuscript, and reviewers of said manuscript.

9. A computer implemented method according to claim 8 wherein said authorization comprises storing, in association with said unique identification assigned to said manuscript, at least one of an identification of an associate editor, a potential reviewer, and a reviewer.

10. A computer implemented method according to claim 8 wherein said authorization comprises storing, in association with said unique identification assigned to said manuscript, an identification of an associate editor and a reviewer.

11. A computer implemented manuscript review system, comprising:

- ✓ means for receiving manuscript data defining a manuscript comprising at least one of text data, audio data, and video data;
- ✓ means for assigning a unique identification to said manuscript data;
- ✓ means for prompting a potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript; and
- ✓ means for storing agreement data received from said potential reviewer, said agreement data including one of agreement to review and disagreement to review said manuscript.

12. A computer implemented system, according to claim 11 further comprising:

means for, depending upon stored agreement data from at least one potential reviewer, transmitting a signal prompting an additional potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript.

13. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for responding to receipt of agreement data indicating disagreement to review by transmitting a signal prompting an additional potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript.

14. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for storing data indicating an identification of an associate editor for said manuscript in association with said manuscript data.

15. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for storing data indicating an identification of an associate editor for said manuscript in association with said manuscript data; and  
means for storing at least one date on which said associate editor takes at least one of the following actions:  
assigning a potential reviewer; and  
entering manuscript approval status data.

16. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for storing dates on which at least one of receiving said manuscript,  
prompting a potential reviewer, and receiving agreement data occur.

17. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for transmitting manuscript review instructions to reviewers.

18. A computer implemented system according to claim 11 further comprising:  
means for authorizing transmission of said manuscript to at least one of  
associate editors of said manuscript, potential reviewers of said manuscript, and  
reviewers of said manuscript.

19. A computer implemented system according to claim 18 wherein said  
authorization comprises storing, in association with said unique identification  
assigned to said manuscript, at least one of an identification of an associate  
editor, a potential reviewer, and a reviewer.

20. A computer program product for implementing a manuscript review  
process on a computer, said program comprising the steps of:

- receiving manuscript data defining a manuscript comprising at least one of text  
data, audio data, and video data;
- assigning a unique identification to said manuscript data;
- prompting a potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript; and
- storing agreement data received from said potential reviewer, said agreement  
data including one of agreement to review and disagreement to review said  
manuscript.